JUMP COMICS DELUXE

黒塚 KUROZUKA 9

[原作]夢枕獏 [作画]野口賢

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"白王の城"内で
巻き起こった決戦は幕を引き、
一行は東京を後に。
異形のモノたちが棲むと言われる
鬼門・東北へ向かった。

果てしなく永い永い年月を経て、
想い焦がれてきた、あの"黒蜜"とクロウは
果たして再会なるのか!?

東北の知られざる秘密。
いざ、壮大なる旅の終着点へ…

9

黒塚
KUROZUKA 9

[原作]夢枕獏　[作画]野口賢

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9

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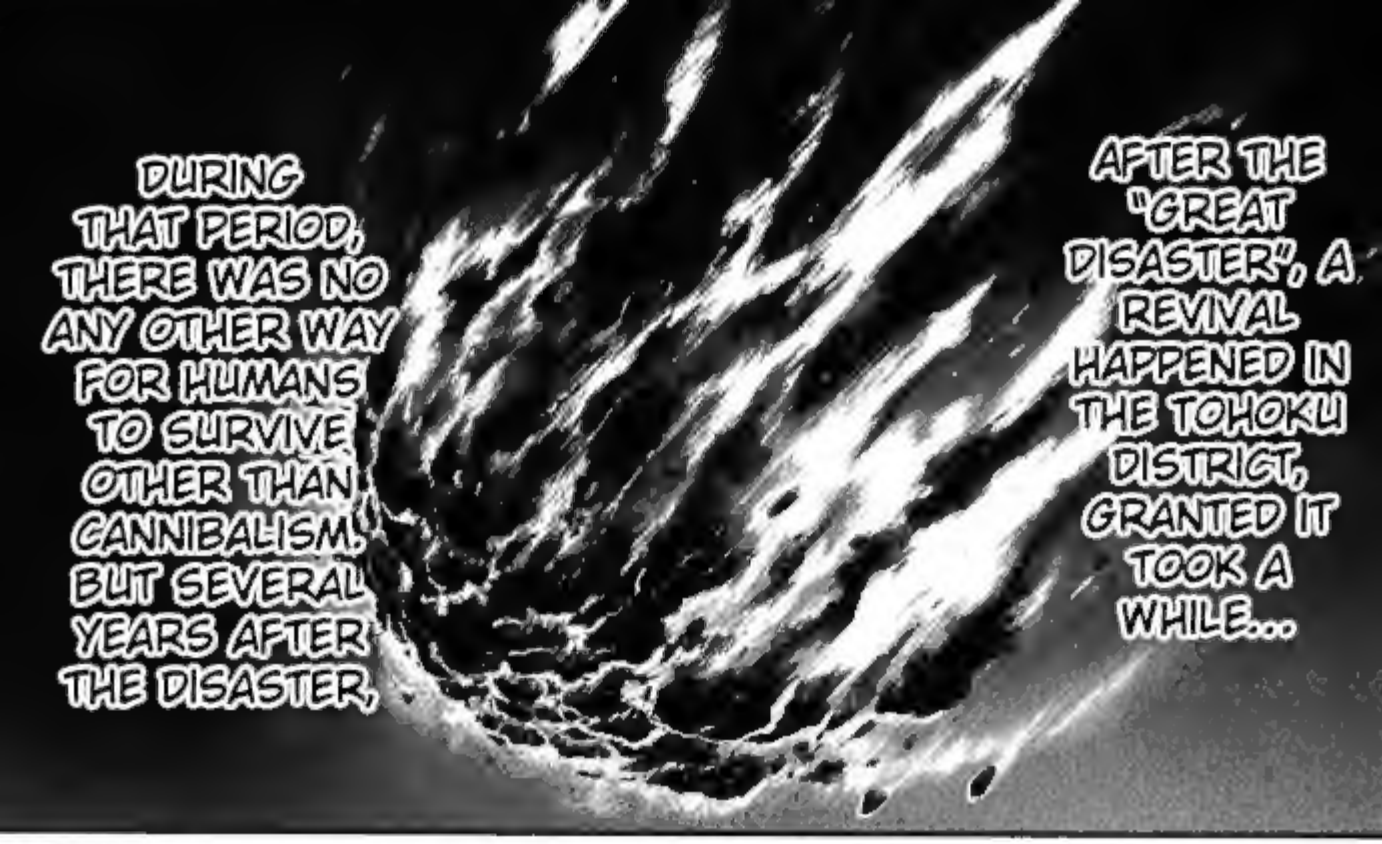

DURING THAT PERIOD, THERE WAS NO ANY OTHER WAY FOR HUMANS TO SURVIVE OTHER THAN CANNIBALISM. BUT SEVERAL YEARS AFTER THE DISASTER,
AFTER THE "GREAT DISASTER", A REVIVAL HAPPENED IN THE TOHOKU DISTRICT, GRANTED IT TOOK A WHILE...

STILL, THE TOHOKU AREA WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT BECAME HEAVILY POP-ULATED.

BUT AS THE WORLD WOKE UP, HUMANS ALIKE, MOVED TOWARDS THE CITY.

THAT WAS BECAUSE IN THE URBAN AREAS, THERE WERE A LOT OF CANNED GOODS AND JUICES THAT REMAINED.
MANY MOVED TO THE URBAN AREAS AND THEY BECAME POPULATED.
Chapter 35 Demon's Gate

HUMANS STARTED MIGRATING TO THE BARREN AREAS.
FINALLY, SEVERAL YEARS AFTER THAT,
AND WHILE THEY HAD THE SAME GENETIC MAKE-UP AS HUMANS, THEIR SHAPE WAS DIFFERENT.
AND SO WITH THE PEOPLE LIVING IN TOHOKU, THERE WERE GROTESQUE PEOPLE LIVING IN THE DARKNESS AS WELL.
ESPECIALLY IN THE KANTOU AREA THERE WAS A SEVERE OPPRESSION OF HUMAN OUTCASTS, OF WHICH A LARGE NUMBER FLED TO TOHOKO,

I CAN SEE LIGHTS HERE AND THERE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE PEOPLE LIVE EVEN IN A THINLY POPULATED PLACE LIKE THIS.
TONBA, WHERE ARE WE RIGHT NOW?

YES, YOU'RE RIGHT. THEN WHY DON'T WE TOUCH DOWN AND WAIT TILL MORNING.

WE'VE ALREADY ENTERED THE TOHOKU AREA.
BUT IT'S PRETTY DARK OUT THERE. IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND THE PLACE WE'RE HEADING.

WE'RE BOUND TO CRASH INTO A RIDGE OR SOMETHING.
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. IF WE KEEP FLYING,

GOOD, I CAN SEE THE RIVER HEADING NORTH. WE'LL LAND ON A DRY RIVERBANK.

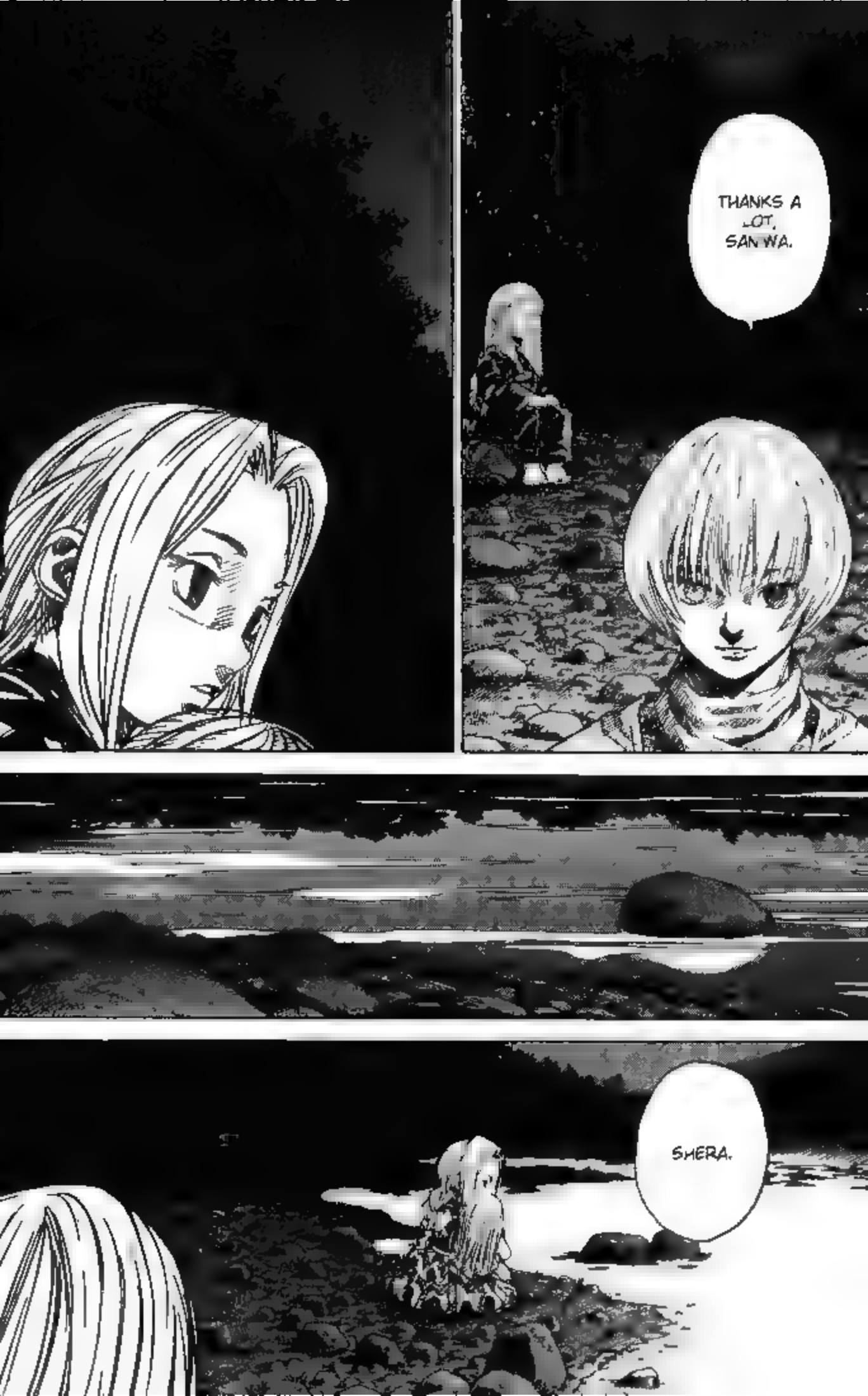
BESIDES, YOU CAN'T FLY A HELICOPTER TO WHERE KUROMITSU-SAMA'S LOCATED.
SO ANYWAY, WE CAN JUST WALK TO THE PLACE WE NEED TO GO.

THIS DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A VERY SAFE PLACE TO BE. IS MORNING COMING ANY TIME SOON?
サワサワ
HEY YOU.

SEEMS LIKE YOU WERE COMMISSIONED BY THE RED EMPEROR TO WATCH OVER KUROU,
WHICH MEANS YOU'RE ONE OF HIS UNDERLINGS
WE JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE A COMMON GOAL AND ENEMY
BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK WE'LL TAKE YOU TO KUROMITSU-SAMA'S LOCATION?
WELL, WHAT ELSE?! YOU BROUGHT ME ALL THIS WAY,
AND YOU THINK I'M GONNA WALK BACK TO KYOTO FROM HERE?!

THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM.
HEY .
IF WE KILL YOU HERE, YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT
TONBA.
110°F
110°F

WE USED HER QUITE A BIT.
AND HAD WE NOT COLLABORATED WITH THE RED EMPEROR, OUR ESCAPE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE
IT'S FINE, IS IT NOT?
IF YOU HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH IT, THEN FINE.
LET HER COME WITH US.
YOU'RE ONE LUCKY GIRL.


THANKS A LOT, SANWA.
SHERA.

.....
COME OVER BY THE FIRE. IT'S DANGEROUS TO BE ALL ALONE
OK

SHERA!!

KYAA!

HOLD IT!!
SHERA!!

IT'S ALRIGHT. SHE WON'T DIE FROM SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

どて
WA!
AND DON'T DO THAT EVER AGAIN!!
ぺと
しょぼーん

WOW, HOW'D YOU DO THAT?
I BECAME A WOMAN WHEN I WENT TO THE CASTLE
IT'S SIMPLE.

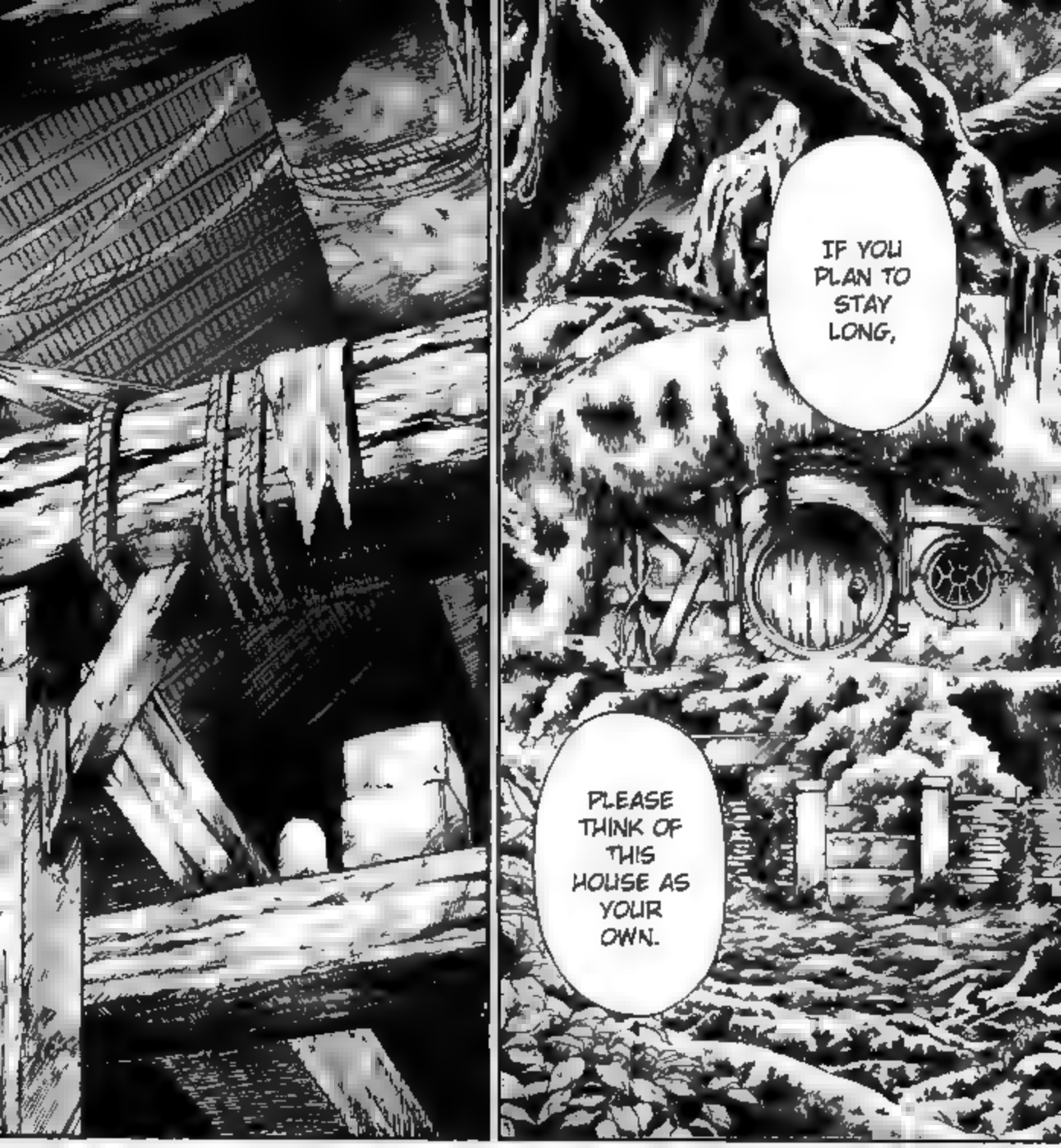
SHE'S DIFFERENT FROM US, THAT'S FOR SURE.
THAT GIRL'S SOME-THING

IT'S JUST ABOUT SUNRISE.
LET'S GO.

ARE WE THERE YET?
WE'VE BEEN WALKING FOR MORE THAN THREE HOURS.
JUST A BIT FURTHER. LOOK, YOU CAN SEE IT.

ギィ

SANIWA-
SAMA!!
WE'VE
MISSED
YOU.
YOU'VE
FINALLY
RETURNED.


IF YOU PLAN TO STAY LONG,
PLEASE THINK OF THIS HOUSE AS YOUR OWN.

ナイ

IS EVERYTHING PREPARED?
YES. WHENEVER YOU'D LIKE TO DO IT.

THEN,
SHALL WE GO?
GO WHERE?

TO SEE KUROMITSU-SAMA.

NOT QUITE.
WE CAN FINALLY SEE HER?!!
KUROU-DONO AND I ARE GOING,
ALONG WITH THE WHITE KING....

THE WHITE KING?!!
YES.
GO? WITH YOU?
I CAN MEET HER?

NO!
YES.
YOU CAN'T.
YOU HAVE TO STAY WITH ME.
DON'T GO ISAMU!

I'LL COME RIGHT BACK.
DON'T WORRY.
OK.

BEECH TREES...
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE WALKED THROUGH HERE.

STILL, EVEN IF IT ISN'T, IT'S MORE THAN JUST A STRANGE FEELING
WASN'T SOMEONE WALKING WITH ME?

WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM?
WHAT ARE THESE MEMORIES?
FROM INSIDE MY BODY.
I CAN FEEL IT ...

WHAT'S SEEPED INTO MY BODY IS COMING FULL OUT
AND GUSHING UP TO MY CONSCIOUS-NESS.
THIS LAND-SCAPE
THIS SLOPE.
THIS LIGHT.

WILL YOU WAIT HERE PLEASE.
YES...
HERE?

I WILL BRING KUROMITSU-SAMA WITH ME.
IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME,
BUT WHY?
YES
SHE'S CLOSE?!

I THINK KUROMITSU-SAMA DOESN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW WHERE SHE IS.
BUT WORRY NOT, SHE SHOULD SHOW UP HERE.
WHY CAN'T I JUST COME?
YES
IF YOU WAIT HERE ALONE.
SHE WILL?

HE WILL BE COMING WITH ME.
ALONE? WHAT ABOUT THE WHITE KING?
HE'S GOING WITH YOU?!
GO WITH YOU?! WHILE I'M SITTING HERE,

KUROU-SAMA!!
JUST A BIT LONGER. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MEET HER IF YOU WAIT JUST A BIT LONGER.
IF YOU ONLY STAY PATIENT FOR ANOTHER HOUR.

FINE.
WHAT?
I HAVE ONE REQUEST WHILE YOU'RE WAITING HERE.

YOU MUST NOT FOLLOW AFTER ME
WHEREVER I GO, YOU MUST NOT COME LOOKING FOR ME

DON'T PEEP, ALRIGHT?
ALONE WITH THAT WHITE KING THAT IS.
OK, I GOT IT. BUT ARE YOU GONNA BE OK?
YOU NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT THAT.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?
COME WITH ME.
THERE YOU HAVE IT.
TO SEE KUROMITSU-SAMA.

KUROU...
KUROU CAN YOU HEAR ME?
RA?
YEAH, I CAN.

I HEARD THE WHOLE THING.
YOU WERE EAVES-DROP-PING?
SORRY, I COULDN'T HELP IT, FORGIVE ME.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
JUST THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW

WHAT?!
KLAON'S BEEN GONE FOR A WHILE NOW
HERE DAT

WHAT THE HELL'S THAT FOR?!
THE SIGNAL FOR YOUR DEATH.

Ikaro no Ryuu
DIE? ME?
YEP.
Chapter 36: Jukai no Kessen
Decisive Battle in the Sea of Trees

AND IF I PLANNED TO?
DON'T TELL ME YOU THINK YOU CAN KILL ME,
WITH A WEAPON LIKE THAT.
KUON.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME.
KILL HIM QUICKLY.
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.
I SEE.

THIS WAS THE PLAN FROM THE START.
IS THAT WHY YOU BROUGHT ME HERE?

KUON!!
KILL HIM NOW!

HE PROBABLY
FOLLOWED YOUR SCENT.

IT SEEMS HIS NOSE IS PRETTY GOOD,
HE COULD PROBABLY LOCATE YOUR POSITION.
MY SCENT?
EH?! HE HASN'T SHOWN UP YET?
THEN HE'S COMING HERE.
COULD HE BE HIDING?
I DON'T KNOW.
NOPE.

PRO-
BABLY
WHAT?
IF THAT'S
TRUE THEN
HE'S
PROBA-
BLY...
FOLLOW-
ING
SANIWA'S
SCENT!
NOT MINE!!

DAMN

SHOULD I FOLLOW AFTER HER?

THAT MAKES SENSE. I CAN SEE HIM DOING THAT

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID.

BUT I PROMISED.
I WOULDN'T.

NOT
TO
PEEP.

I'M GONNA GO.
WHERE?
TO FOLLOW
AFTER SANIWA.

I CAN SEE HER AGAIN.

AT LAST, I CAN MEET THAT WOMAN.

IF I DO THAT...

MY FOR-
GOTTEN
MEMO-
RIES.
IF I GET
THAT
CHANCE,
WILL EV-
ERYTHING
FINALLY BE
REVEALED
TO ME?
WHAT I
AM.

I'VE BEEN DWELLING ON THAT FOR 120 YEARS.
THE PAST THAT I'M MISSING.
LIVING 120 YEARS IS MUCH LONGER THAN A NORMAL HUMAN'S LIFESPAN.
EXCEPT I'M BOTH IRRITATED AND ANXIOUS ABOUT REMEMBER-ING.
WOULDN'T MY MEMORIES BE IN-GRAINED DEEPER IN MY BODY IF I'VE LIVED A LONG TIME?

WHICH MEANS, MAYBE I HAVEN'T LIVED ALL THAT LONG.

JUST HOW LONG HAVE I LIVED?
THERE ISN'T A HUMAN ALIVE WHO DOESN'T TRY TO LIVE AS LONG AS THEY CAN.
EVEN I KNOW THAT.

BE CAREFUL, KUROU.

I WANT TO MEET THAT WOMAN.
I'M OBSESSED WITH IT.
AFTER SO MANY DEAD-ENDS, I'VE FINALLY MADE IT.
AND YET,
NO MATTER WHAT, I WILL MEET HER.
I HAVE THIS STRANGE FEELING.

SOMETHING'S OFF. I'M NOT EXCITED.
I CAN'T PUT IT IN GOOD WORDS.
BUT AREN'T I JUST BEING SET UP FOR DISAP-POINT-MENT?
BUT BY WHO? THE RED EMPEROR?

OR EVEN BY MY OWN DOING?
THAT WOMAN?
SANWA?
POSSIBLE EVEN,
FATE?

HUH, THERE'S A FRESH SCENT.
MY HEART'S CONFLICTED.
I CAN SMELL SANIWA,
AND THE WHITE KING HEADING IN DIFFERENT DIREC-TIONS.
I DIDN'T EXPECT,

MY LEGS TO TAKE THIS MUCH EFFORT TO MOVE.
BUT THIS BODY HAS AMASSED SO MUCH FATIGUE
I THOUGHT MY STRENGTH WOULD COME BACK TEMPORARILY AFTER DRINKING RAI'S BLOOD.
BUT THE EFFECT HAS ALREADY WORN OFF.

THE SCENT OF BLOOD.

IT'S STILL FRESH
THAT SCENT,
I RECOG-NIZE IT

IT'S KUON.
LOOKS LIKE HE CAUGHT THEM HERE.
WHY IS THE WHITE KING DEAD?
BUT,

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
I CAN HEAR SOME-THING.
THE LOW VOICE OF A MAN

AND,
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE,
THE VOICE OF A WOMAN.

KUON.

UP WIND...
AND THAT VOICE ISN'T SANIWA'S.
IN THE WIND THAT'S BLOWING,
A VOICE IS MIXING WITH KUON'S SCENT.

WHAT'S THIS SCENT? IS IT SANIWA'S?
NO.
IT'S A FRAGRANCE THAT I KNOW FROM SOME-WHERE.
FROM A LONG TIME AGO, 120 YEARS AGO.

NO WAIT, EVEN FURTHER BACK THAN THAT.
KURO-MITSU?!

IS THAT
HER
SCENT?

I WOULDN'T EXPECT IT TO REACH THIS FAR.
IT'S COMING FROM UPWIND.
FROM ITS' STRENGTH,
I CAN SEE THAT WOMAN
AT LAST,

ヒソ
ヒソ

KURO-
MITSU!!

NOT YET...

HAS THE FIGHTING STOPPED?

IT STILL HASN'T.
COME TO AN END.
THEY'RE STILL GUAR-
HUMAN'S WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO
EVEN NOW.

ARE WE STILL BEING PURSUED?
YES, STILL.
EVEN HERE?
YES.
FOR A LONG TIME NOW...

AND NOW THAT WOMAN IS RIGHT OVER THERE.
WHY IS SHE CRYING?
WHY IS THAT WOMAN CRYING?
WASN'T I THINKING THAT IN THAT MOMENT 120 YEARS AGO?
THAT I WANTED TO BE THIS PERSON'S STRENGTH.

A WOMAN WEARING A SILK, I GUESS YOU COULD CALL IT THAT, KIMONO FROM AN AGE LONG PAST.
WITH A FEELING THAT I'VE SEEN THIS WOMAN WEARING A THING LIKE THAT IN A FAR OFF TIME.
Chapter 37 An Eternal Feeling

OR EVEN 1000 YEARS AGO?
200 YEARS AGO? 300 YEARS AGO? 500 YEARS AGO?

IS WELLING UP FROM DEEP WITHIN MY BODY.
SOMETHING WEIRD,

Ikusato no Fujou
http://www.ikusato.net
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GIVE ME A REASON.

WHY?
WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO CALLED ME HERE?

IS KJON
CRYING?
ARE THOSE
TEARS?
PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME.
YOU GAVE ME
THIS KIND OF
BODY.

WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY "THIS KIND OF BODY"?
AND "PLEASE FORGIVE ME"?
WHAT IS SHE WANTING HIM TO FORGIVE HER FOR?
ギリ
ギリ

AM I JEALOUS,

OF THOSE TWO BEING NEAR EACH OTHER?

A STRONG, HOT SENSATION,

ERUPTED FROM WITHIN KUROU'S BODY.

WHAT IS THIS?

IS THAT SUPPOSED TO SUDDENLY MAKE IT ALL BETTER?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN FORGIVE YOU?
I EVEN ENTERED AS "OONAMUCHI", ALL FOR YOU...
I'VE DONE SO MANY THINGS FOR YOU.

AND YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST SAY GOODBYE?!
I'VE LIVED ONLY TO FULFILL YOUR EVERY WHIM.
ヒュッ
ヒュッ
FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS.... I'VE STOPPED AGING AND HID MY FACE IN THIS CLOAK.
ALL FOR YOU...
I KNOW ...
KUROMITSU-SAMA, ALL I WANT IS TO SEE YOUR HAPPY FACE...

YOU EVEN SAVED THOSE CLOTHES JUST FOR HIM?!...
THEN ALL YOU WANT IS KUROU?!
YOU...
EVEN THOUGH YOU KNEW ABOUT MY FEELINGS FOR YOU,
FORGIVE ME, KUON...

I GET IT.
HE'S ALL YOU CARE ABOUT, HUH?
.....

IT'S EXACTLY AS YOU'VE SAID.

YES, THAT'S CORRECT

HE AND I,

ARE THE SAME

HE'S ALL I CARE ABOUT.

YOU MADE ME THIS WAY.
I HAVE THE NOSE OF A DOG, A BODY THAT CAN HEAL ANY WOUND, AND STRENGTH THAT CAN SURPASS ANY ORDINARY HUMAN.
WHILE YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH HIM, HASN'T HE MADE SOME MIS-TAKES?
AND THAT GUY'S DEFECTIVE

AND HAVE I NOT BEEN PERFECT?
SHOULDN'T YOU BE OVER WITH HIM ALREADY?
DON'T WE BOTH HAVE A LONG LIFESPAN?
I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT YOU TWO HAVE AN OLD HISTORY TOGETHER.
PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT! WHAT KIND OF RELATION-SHIP DO YOU HAVE WITH HIM?
WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU TWO? WHAT IS HE?
DON'T SAY IT KUON...

THE COLD, UNATTACHED KUON WASN'T LIKE THIS.
THIS WASN'T KUON.
TO THE BEST OF KUROU'S KNOW-LEDGE,

SO AM I USELESS NOW?
THAT'S NOT IT. I NEVER THOUGHT OF YOU LIKE THAT...
WAS I JUST SOME AMUSEMENT ALONG THE WAY,
THEN HOW AM I DIFFERENT FROM HIM?
AND NOW YOU'RE DONE WITH ME?

YOU LOVE HIM AND NOT ME
THAT'S THE ONLY DIFFER-ENCE, ISN'T IT
OH KUON.
THEN SAY IT. SAY "I DON'T LOVE YOU".
"I'M LEAVING YOU AND GOING TO KUROU."

AND EVEN THOUGH I'VE TRIED, I'M STILL NOT ENOUGH?
SINCE THE TIME OF THE METEOR.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH IT SEEMED TO GET BAD, WE WERE TOGETHER.
EVEN THOUGH THIS ENTIRE TIME I'VE BEEN BY YOUR SIDE, AND EVEN THOUGH I'VE GOTTEN DIRTY,

I WON'T.

STOP IT...

WERE YOU PLANNING TO USE ME FROM THE VERY BEGINNING?
.....
SAY IT.
"I DON'T CHOOSE YOU, I CHOOSE KUROU."
FORGIVE ME... KUON.
ALL FOR THAT GUY?
IS MY BODY THE ONLY THING I'M GOOD FOR?

TELL ME THE TRUTH !!
YOU'RE CORRECT. I ONLY PLANNED TO USE YOU,
FOR KUROU'S SAKE.

THEN THAT WAS TRUE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, WASN'T IT.
THIS CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
I HAVE THE SAME BLOOD TYPE AS HIM.

I WANT...
TO BE YOURS.

JUST ONCE, I WANT TO BE-
JUST ONCE...
STOP RIGHT THERE, KUON!!

IS THAT YOU KUROU?!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF OF HER!

WHAT'S WITH THE FACE?!
LET ME SEE IT FOR MY-SELF!
KUROU!!
SHOW ME!!

KUROU ?!
I HEARD ALL OF IT.
THEN WHAT WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT -

AH!

DIE
KUROU!!

THAT'S SOME STRENGTH.

KUON, ARE YOU...

DO YOU GET NOW WHAT I SAID ON THE ROOF?
HOW'D YOU GET IN THE CASTLE?
IT'S POSSI-BLE, IF I'M ALONE
HE'S THE SAME AS ME!

THEN, THAT WOMAN,
WILL BE-
I'LL KILL YOU!

STOP IT YOU TWO!
PLEASE !!
STOP IT!!

I CAN'T FOLLOW HIS SPEED.
HE'S STRONG!
FATIGUE IS SETTLING IN.
I CAN'T GET ANY MORE STRENGTH FROM MY BODY.

EVEN MY REGENERATION CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THIS SPEED.
I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING...
OR ELSE HE'LL GET A FATAL HIT.
THIS IS BAD.

SHAAA!
GU!

GAHA AAA!

HMPH.
UGH
...

MY SWORD ...

DIE.

YA!

I CAN'T STAND UP.
I CAN'T BREATH.

NO MATTER HOW INVINCIBLE MY BODY SEEMS,
MY SPINE IS BROKEN, MY RIGHT LUNG IS PIERCED, MY FINGERS AND ARM ARE GONE, AND I CAN NO LONGER BREATH.
I CAN ONLY SHIFT MY EYES.
I CAN'T EVEN MOVE.

THIS IS THE END FOR YOU.

ヒッ
チャ

Don't you just love motifs? One more volume, can you handle it? Just wanted to say I put some of the doubles for Kurozuka on the site in their original edited resolution since they're so cool and make great wallpapers. So if you've liked any, check http://www.iryuu.net/p_kuro_w.php

■ジャンプ・コミックス　デラックス

9 KUROZUKA

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